

Board of Selectmen
Minutes of 7/28/03

I. Call to Order.

The Chair, Allen Hines at 7 p.m, called the meeting to order. There were present Lloyd Sullivan and Jenifer Landman, Selectmen and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Election of Board of Selectmen Chairperson

Mr. Hines announced his resignation as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, citing his intention to relocate out of state within the not too distant future.

Mr. Hines nominates Mr. Sullivan to serve as the next Board of Selectmen Chairperson. Mr. Sullivan seconds the motion.

Ms. Landman nominates Jenifer Landman to fill the vacancy. There is no second to this motion.

Discussion ensues related to the qualifications of both Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Landman to serve as Chair.

Mr. Sullivan calls the question for a vote. The vote was 3-0 in favor of Mr. Sullivan serving as the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Sullivan read a prepared statement citing:

“During the past several months Selectman Jenifer Landman, and more recently Ms. Day and Ms. Pohl has accused Selectman Allen Hines and me of:

**Having Illegal Meetings
Discrimination against her and other females
Creating a very hostile work environment
Abuse toward other officials and citizens
Creating a pervasive hostile work environment within the Town
Sexual Harassment
Chauvinistic approaches when dealing with women
Intolerance for people of the female gender
Use of intimidation factors
Disrespect at meetings**

Until now I have chosen to ignore these baseless accusations in the hope that these individuals would eventually move on to more constructive issues. Unfortunately, I now believe these continuous accusations are designed solely to impugn the integrity of Selectman Hines and myself, as well as the many hundreds of voters that chose to put us both in office for second terms. Allowed to continue, they will erode the fabric of our community to the point where divisiveness will paralyze Town government.

Accordingly, on the advice of Town counsel, I am directing the Town Administrator to hire a professional video recording agency to videotape all future meetings attended by Ms. Landman, and/or Ms. Day, and/or Ms. Pohl where either Mr. Hines or I are required to attend. By video taping these meetings there will be an indisputable record of what really transpired.

Until such time as our meetings are videotaped and the tapes become a permanent part of the official minutes, no further public meetings will be held.

At this time I move that this meeting be adjourned.”

Mr. Hines seconded the motion. Ms. Landman voiced objection to adjourning the meeting stating that “this is a duly posted meeting and it is not appropriate to adjourn because important Town business should not be delayed”. Ms. Landman stated that she thought it appropriate to tape meetings, suggested that a local television (public access) might be appropriate to record the meetings in the future.

Mr. Sullivan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-1 with Ms. Landman opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator